



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/581,267

06/01/2006

Hirosuke Kawabata

062455

3159

38834

7590

08/18/2011

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP
1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW
SUITE 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

JACKSON, MONIQUE R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1787

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/18/2011

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentmail@whda.com

Art Unit: 1787

Continuation of Item No. 11. NOTE: The Applicant's arguments filed 8/8/11 have been considered but are not persuasive. The Applicant first argues that Yano et al teaches a blend of two thermoplastic resins (A) and (B) to adjust the orientation birefringence instead of copolymerizing them as instantly claimed however the Examiner respectfully disagrees and notes that Yano et al clearly teaches that thermoplastic resin A may be a glutar imido based resin that is a copolymer comprising repeating units that read upon instantly claimed formula (1) and instantly claimed formula (2) that may further comprise other monomers including styrene which reads upon instantly claimed formula (3). Hence, Yano et al clearly teaches a copolymer comprising repeating units that read upon all three instantly claimed formulae however as discussed in the prior office action, Yano et al does not specifically teach the amount of styrene or formula (3) repeating units that may be incorporated into the copolymer of glutar imido and methyl (meth)acrylate. However, the Examiner maintains her position that one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated to utilize routine experimentation to determine the optimum amount of the additional styrene monomer to incorporate based upon the desired properties, particularly the desired zero orientation birefringence, for a particular end use wherein one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated to utilize an amount similar to that disclosed by Yano et al as being suitable for incorporation into other suitable thermoplastic (A) resins, namely 50mol% or less, given the predictable results and reasonable expectation of success.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MONIQUE JACKSON whose telephone number is (571)272-1508. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays, 10:00AM-5:00PM.

Art Unit: 1787

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Callie Shosho can be reached on 571-272-1123. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Monique R Jackson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1787
August 14, 2011